

not used

Announcements of the Foreign Office Concerning
the Lady Bird and the Panay Incidents (Dec., 14)

Regarding the bombing and sinking incident of the Panay, an American gunboat, along with three American merchantmen, Foreign Minister HIROTA immediately called on Mr. Grew, American Ambassador resident in Tokyo, and expressed regret on behalf of the Japanese Government on Dec 13.

At the same time he sent a telegram to Ambassador SAITO in the United States instructing him to take similar steps. On Dec. 14 he sent Ambassador Grew the Imperial Governments' official note of apology. Further in the United States Ambassador SAITO called on Secretary of State Hull on Dec. 13 and expressed sincere regrets according to instructions from the Imperial Government. The Secretary of State thereupon stated that although he made it a rule to handle all international affairs with restraint and to obtain results, he had been unable to contain his alarms at the Panay Incident. The case has already been reported to the President who has also shown great concern over the matter.

Concerning the incident where our Imperial troops fired a volley of small arms fire against the British gunboat "Lady Bird" at Wuhu, Foreign Minister HIROTA immediately called on British Ambassador Craigie resident in Tokyo on the afternoon of Dec. 13 and, representing the Imperial Government, expressed deep regret for the outbreak of this unfortunate affair. It was further discovered on Dec. 14th

LEF DOC " 1275

that besides the above named gunboat, the British gunboat
"Pee" at Wuhu and two other British gunboats the "Cricket"
and the "Scallop" at Nanking had also been fired upon so
on the same day, HIROTA, representing the Imperial Government,
sent an official note of apology addressed to Ambassador
Craigie.

EF LOC 273

C E R T I F I C A T E

Statement of Source and Aughtnttcity

I, ODO, Nagaharu, Assistant Chief of the Archives
Section, Japanese Foreign Office, hereby certify that the
document hereto attached in Japanese consisting of 2 pages
and entitled "Statement of the Foreign Office regarding the
Incidents of Ladybird and Panay, December 14, 1937."
is an exact and true copy of an official document of the
Japanese Foreign Office.

Certified at Tokyo,
on this 30th day of December 1946.

Nagaharu ODO
Signature of Official

Witness: H. Ishida

TRANSLATION CERTIFICATE

I, Yukio Kawamoto, of the Defense Language Branch,
heraby certify that the foregoing translation described in
the above certificate is, to the best of my knowledge and
belief, a correct translation and is as near as possible to
the meaning of the original document.

/s/ Yukio Kawamoto

Tokyo, Japan
Date 29 Janu. 1947

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「レディバード」號並「バネー」號事件
ニ關スル外務省發表（十二月十四日）

米國砲艦「バネー」號及商船三隻沈没事件ニ關シテハ十二月十三日廣田外務大臣ハ不取敢在京「グルー」米國大使ヲ往訪シ帝國政府ノ遺憾及陳謝ノ意ヲ表シ同時ニ在米海軍大使ニ同様ノ措置ヲ取ル機電訓シ更ニ十四日公文ヲ以テ「グルー」大使宛帝國政府陳謝ノ意ヲ表明セリ、尙米國ニ於テハ海軍大使ハ十三日「ハル」國務長官ヲ往訪シ帝國政府ノ訓令ニヨリ深甚ナル遺憾ノ意ヲ表明スル所アリタル處、右ニ對シ國務長官ハ國際案件ハ總テ冷靜且有效的ニ處理スル建前ナルモ今回ノ「バネー」號事件ニハ喫驚ヲ禁シ得サリシ旨ヲ述ヘ、既ニ本件ハ大統領ニモ報告セラレ大統領モ亦多大ノ關心ヲ示シ居レリ他方英砲艦「レディバード」號カ蒸氣ニ於テ帝國軍ニヨリ沈没セラルタル事件ニ關シテハ廣田外務大臣ハ不取敢十三日午後在京「クレイギー」英大使ヲ往訪シ此不幸ナル事件ノ發生ニ對シ帝國政府ヲ代表

DEF LOC # 273

シ深甚ナル遺憾ノ意ヲ表明セルカ更ニ十四日右砲臺ノ外英砲臺「ビー」ハ
無湖ニ於テ「クリケット」及「スカラツプ」ノ二英砲臺ハ南京ニ於テ是亦
就砲臺ヲ蒙リタル事判明セルニ付同日「クレイギー」大使宛公文ヲ以テ帝
國政府ヲ代表シ正式陳謝スル所アリタリ。